

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to a human
homolog of Drosophila melanogaster Reaper (hRpr)
protein and to a nucleic acid sequence encoding
5 same. The invention further relates to antibodies
specific for hRpr and antisense molecules that bind
nucleic acid sequences encoding hRpr. The invention
also relates to methods of screening compounds for
their ability to enhance or inhibit hRpr activity
10 and to methods of using compounds so identified in
therapeutic regimes.